

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

: 09/068,253

Applicant

: Takesada SHIMURA et al

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: Abdel A. Mohamed

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Amendment

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

February 24, 2004

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.